

including cosmetics and foodstuffs, which test kit comprises at least one DNA fragment comprising the following SEQ IDs and spacers:

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- a) a forward primer (SEQ ID forward primer);
b) a probe (SEQ ID probe);
c) a reverse primer (SEQ ID reverse primer);
d) optionally a spacer between forward primer and probe,
e) optionally a spacer between probe and reverse primer;
f) optionally a spacer upstream from the forward primer,
g) optionally a spacer downstream from the reverse primer,
the SEQ IDs ((SEQ ID forward primer), (SEQ ID probe), and (SEQ ID reverse primer)) also comprising variants wherein one, two or three nucleotides have been substituted, deleted and/or inserted, the variant essentially having the same function as the sequence of the SEQ IDs ((SEQ ID forward primer), (SEQ ID probe), and (SEQ ID reverse primer)), with probes, the function of binding to DNA, and with primers, the function of binding to DNA and providing an extendable 3' end for the DNA polymerase, the spacers comprising 0-40 nucleotides,
the DNA fragment, selected from the group of
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- (i) for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
SEQ ID No. 9 as forward primer
SEQ ID No. 10 as probe, and

- SEQ ID No. 11 as reverse primer
- (ii) for *Escherichia coli*
- SEQ ID No. 12 as forward primer
- SEQ ID No. 13 as probe, and
- SEQ ID No. 14 as reverse primer
- (iii) for *Salmonella ssp.*
- SEQ ID No. 15 as forward primer
- SEQ ID No. 16 as probe, and
- SEQ ID No. 17 as reverse primer
- (iv) for bacteria
- SEQ ID No. 18 as forward primer
- SEQ ID No. 19 as probe, and
- SEQ ID No. 20 as reverse primer
- (v) for enterobacteriaceae
- SEQ ID No. 44 as forward primer
- SEQ ID No. 46 as probe, and
- SEQ ID No. 45 as reverse primer
- (vi) for enterobacteriaceae (16S rRNA)
- SEQ ID No. 47 as forward primer
- SEQ ID No. 48 as probe, and
- SEQ ID No. 49 as reverse primer

or additionally all those sequences which are complementary to the above sequences from SEQ ID No. 9 to 49.

13. A method of detecting microorganisms in products, particularly in drugs or cosmetics, said method comprising the following steps:

a) use of primers and fluorescence-labeled probes having the appropriate sequences and variations thereof,

(i) for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

SEQ ID No. 9 as forward primer

SEQ ID No. 10 as probe, and

SEQ ID No. 11 as reverse primer

(ii) for *Escherichia coli*

SEQ ID No. 12 as forward primer

SEQ ID No. 13 as probe, and

SEQ ID No. 14 as reverse primer

(iii) for *Salmonella ssp.*

SEQ ID No. 15 as forward primer

SEQ ID No. 16 as probe, and

SEQ ID No. 17 as reverse primer

(iv) for bacteria

SEQ ID No. 18 as forward primer

SEQ ID No. 19 as probe, and

SEQ ID No. 20 as reverse primer

(v) for enterobacteriaceae

SEQ ID No. 44 as forward primer

SEQ ID No. 46 as probe, and

SEQ ID No. 45 as reverse primer
(vi) for enterobacteriaceae (16S rRNA)

SEQ ID No. 47 as forward primer

SEQ ID No. 48 as probe, and

SEQ ID No. 49 as reverse primer

or additionally all those sequences which are complementary
to the above sequences from SEQ ID No. 9 to 49;

- b) propagating the DNA using PCR, and
- c) irradiating with specific wavelengths exciting the
fluorescent dye,
- d) measuring and quantifying the emission of the excited
fluorescent dye.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the
preparation of the probes is based on the TaqMan detection
technology.

15. A test kit for detecting *Staphylococcus aureus* as a
microbial contamination of non-sterile products, comprising at
least

- a) a forward primer of SEQ ID No. 6,
 - b) a probe of SEQ ID No. 7, and
 - c) a reverse primer of SEQ ID No. 8,
- said sequences also comprising variants wherein one, two or

three nucleotides have been substituted, deleted and/or inserted, said variant essentially having the same function as the respective sequence, namely, the function of binding to DNA in the case of probes, and the function of binding to DNA and providing an extendable 3' end for the DNA polymerase in the case of primers;
or additionally all those sequences which are complementary to the sequences SEQ ID No. 6, 7 and/or 8.

16. The test kit according to claim 15, wherein the microbial contamination can be detected according to GMP guidelines.

17. The test kit according to claim 15, wherein the microbial contamination can be detected in drugs, cosmetics and/or foodstuffs.

18. The test kit according to claim 15, wherein the test kit comprises spacers.

19. The test kit according to claim 18, wherein the spacer is positioned between forward primer and probe.

20. The test kit according to claim 18, wherein the spacer

is positioned between probe and reverse primer.

21. The test kit according to claim 18, wherein the space is positioned upstream from the forward primer.

22. The test kit according to claim 18, wherein the spacer is positioned downstream from the reverse primer.

23. The test kit according to claim 18, wherein the spacer comprises 0-40 nucleotides.

24. A method of detecting *Staphylococcus aureus* in products, particularly in drugs or cosmetics, said method comprising the following steps:

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- a) use of SEQ ID No. 6 as forward primer, SEQ ID No. 8 as reverse primer, and fluorescence-labeled probe SEQ ID No. 7 or variations thereof; or additionally all those sequences which are complementary to the sequences from SEQ ID No. 6 to 8;
 - b) propagating the DNA using PCR, and
 - c) irradiating with specific wavelengths exciting the fluorescent dye,
 - d) measuring and quantifying the emission of the excited fluorescent dye.

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25. The method according to claim 24, wherein the preparation of the probes is based on the TaqMan detection technology.

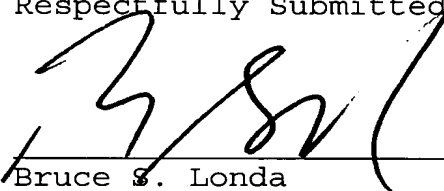
IN THE ABSTRACT

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Please add the abstract on enclosed separate page.

REMARKS

The above amendments were made to place the application into proper United States Patent Format.

Respectfully Submitted,



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